



**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF  
COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW INDIANS  
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT**

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**TESTIMONY OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF COOS, LOWER  
UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW IN OPPOSITION TO HB 3382**

My name is Julie Siestream, I serve as the Vice Chair of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians. I am here to voice the Tribe's opposition to HB 3382. The Tribe does not oppose economic development in the Port of Coos Bay. This bill simply goes too far and threatens the cultural resources and natural resources important to the Tribe. Moreover, the Tribe was never consulted in the development of this bill.

The ancestral homeland of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians encompasses nearly 2 million acres of resource-rich lands lying along a 75-mile section of the Oregon Coast, including Coos Bay. Our ancestors were the stewards and caretakers of these lands since time immemorial.

The Constitution of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians states that our government was established to perpetuate our unique identity and to promote and protect that identity, secure the rights and powers inherit to us as Indian people and as an Indian Tribe, preserve and promote our cultural, religious, and historical beliefs.

This proposed bill weakens the land use planning system and removes our abilities as a Tribe to uphold our constitution and continue to protect and advocate for the resources of which we have been stewards since time immemorial. For example, Policy 18 of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan requires Coos County to consult with the Tribe and incorporate measures to protect cultural resources in the Bay and its surrounding lands. HB 3382 would eliminate this requirement.

Coos Bay has been recognized by the State and federal agencies as a Traditional Cultural Property of the Tribe. The Bay has critical cultural and natural resources, including ancient fishing weirs that you can see if you travel around the Bay and eel grass beds that are critical to herring and other fish species. These resources would be greatly impacted by the removal of regulatory review by the Tribe and other land managing agencies.

For these reasons, the Tribe opposes HB 3382. We welcome the sponsors of this Bill to work with the Tribe on a new bill that would protect our sacred cultural and natural resources and allow economic development in the Bay.